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Thirty-Second Annual Report

October 1922 - October 1923

# The Associated Charities of Salem

Member of
American Association for
Organizing Family Social Work

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Thirty-Second Annual Report

October 1922 - October 1923

# The Associated Charities of Salem

Office, Room 3, 197a Washington Street
Telephone 1076

"To desire to do good is positively dangerous unless one knows what it is good to do."

HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK.

# Officers of the Organization

1922—1923

**PRESIDENT**

RALPH B. HARRIS

**VICE-PRESIDENTS**

Alfred W. Putnam

Rev. Theodore D. Bacon

Miss Caroline O. Emmerton

Rufus D. Adams
President House of Seven Gables Settlement Association

Dr. DeWitt S. Clark
President Salem Fraternity

Mrs. Lawrence W. Edwards
President Salem Young Women's Association

Josiah H. Gifford
President Salem Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis

Mrs. Josiah H. Gifford
President Women's Friend Society

Mrs. Robert E. Hill
President Samaritan Society of Salem

Rev. Alfred Manchester
President Salem Relief Committee

Mrs. Alfred W. Putnam
President Broad Street Neighborhood Club

*Miss Sarah S. Kimball

Rev. Ralph A. Sherwood

Miss Edith Rantoul
President Esther C. Mack Industrial School

Mrs. John M. Raymond
President Seamen's Widow and Orphan Association of Salem

Mrs. John Robinson
President Salem Female Charitable Society

Matthew Robson
President Young Men's Christian Association of Salem

†Mrs. Matthew Robson
President Salem Seaman's Orphan and Children's Friend Society

Mrs. Charles F. Ropes
Chairman Salem Branch American National Red Cross

Martin J. Woods
President Catholic Charities Center

**TREASURER**

Leland H. Cole

**AUDITOR**

William M. Jelly

*Died August 28, 1923.
†Died Sept. 3, 1923, Mrs. John P. Felt, Acting President.

## DIRECTORS

Term expiring 1923

Frank B. Bassett
George M. Bemis
George S. LaPorte
Mrs. Willard B. Porter
Miss Edith N. Stoddard
Albert B. Towers
George S. Parker

Term expiring 1924

Mrs. Henry P. Benson
Mrs. David P. Coffin
Walter W. Duffett, Jr.
Rev. Charles W. Jeffras
Roscoe H. Goddard
Mrs. Harry S. Perkins
Mrs. J. Newton Smith

Term expiring 1925

Miss Madeline Abbot
Warren H. Butler
Mrs. Charles Carroll
Miss Lena C. Emery
Miss Rosefair Kittredge
Arthur H. Phippen
Miss Annie L. Warner

## STANDING COMMITTEES—1922-1923

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Miss Caroline O. Emmerton, Chairman

Mr. Frank B. Bassett
Mr. Warren Butler
Mr. Alfred W. Putnam
Mrs. Charles F. Ropes

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Mr. Leland H. Cole
Mr. Walter W. Duffett
Miss Caroline O. Emmerton
*Miss Jaunita Machado
Mr. George S. Parker
Mrs. Charles F. Ropes

*Now Mrs. Ambrose Walker

## OFFICE STAFF

Miss Lilian Abbott, General Secretary
Miss Jane M. Watson, Assistant Secretary
Miss Edna L. Jones, Office Secretary
Miss Alice R. Davenport, Office Assistant

## THE OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES ARE:

To promote sound family life;

By helping families and individuals to overcome their difficulties and find opportunities for development;

By emphasizing health, education, industry, recreation and character as essential elements;

By encouraging thrift, initiative and responsibility within the family group.

To give prompt emergency relief;

To make a plan for lifting a family above the need of relief, or, if relief must continue, for making it effective.

To secure from logical sources such continuous relief as careful inquiry may show to be needed.

To foster joint effort in social work;

By maintaining a Confidential Exchange, a central bureau of registration, to prevent duplication and to secure closer co-operation of social agencies.

By holding community case conferences on family problems.

To encourage sympathetic and understanding service by volunteers.

To interpret social facts so as to lead to improvement of conditions through an aroused public consciousness.

# Report of the President.

To the Members of The Associated Charities of Salem:

Every social worker should know his community, its origin, the character of its early settlers, its history and the industries which formed its nucleus. He should be interested in its civic and social problems. He should study and appreciate the tasks of the different social agencies, realizing the points at which their interests coincide and the way in which they may supplement each other's work. But it is equally true that the community should know the social agency in its midst. Knowledge on the part of the public, especially that portion of the public which has definitely undertaken to improve conditions, is certainly the basis of effective social action. The public should know the aims and purposes of this organization far better than it does. It should realize the steady, patient, effective work of our social workers and the results that have been, and are being accomplished. The question arises, how can we acquaint the public with our aims and purposes and arouse in them the interest which would bring a far greater support than is now accorded us. In the Treasurer's report, which will be read at this meeting, we shall learn that, in this city of 43,000 inhabitants, we had last year financial support from 158 contributors. This means that there are too few in a city of this size who realize the importance of the work we are doing for the community. It means that we should make greater efforts this coming year to get the people acquainted with our aims, impressing upon them the resourcefulness of our organization, the scope of its work and the spirit of helpfulness which our workers carry with them. Many of you are members of other organizations which look to the betterment of the community. You can make a real service to this Society, and thereby to your community, by spreading abroad our purposes, by telling of our work, by getting people interested who do not now understand the principles we stand for, and by creating new interest through your hearty co-operation.

## Revolving Case Committee

If one could look over the records of the Case Committee and read the pathetic stories that have come before the Committee as definite problems during the year, he would get some idea of the thought, time and patience that is needed to carry these cases through to some constructive solution. The stories are of broken and unhappy homes, or immoral living conditions, of children who need the proper restraining influence of right-minded parents, of illness, of ignorance, and of girls that have gone wrong because the lure of the street has been greater than the attraction of the home. It would be of the greatest benefit to the work of this Society if all the directors could in time serve their turn on this committee,—the only one which touches the distinctly human side of our work. In this way, by your advice and your counsel, you could help in this constructive work of bringing a new happiness into the life of someone less fortunate than yourself.

## Christmas Clearing

Last December, representatives from nearly 20 different agencies met in the rooms of our local Red Cross Branch and discussed a plan for a central clearing house for the purpose of avoiding duplication in the distribution of toys, dinners, etc. at Christmas. This meeting adopted the plan which was outlined and the first step that had ever been made in the direction of co-operative effort at the Christmas season was taken. This movement had a further significance. It brought together for the first time representatives of practically all the social agencies of the city in a co-operative movement. It was a step in the right direction and will lead, we hope, to further efforts along this and similar lines.

## Child Labor Law

In January a meeting was held in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce of representatives of several local agencies interested in the problems connected with children's welfare to arrange for a meeting to discuss the bill then before Congress, introduced by Senator Medill McCormick. This bill would give to Congress the power to pass a direct Child Labor Law. A public meeting was later held at which a resolution was presented and passed in favor of the bill.

## Clearing of Events

There is a movement on foot at the present time to get together representatives of local organizations for the purpose

of clearing events. This means that all events such as fairs, concerts, cake sales, public entertainments, lectures, etc. will be registered at some central office in order to avoid the conflict of dates which so frequently occurs at present. A meeting of representatives of several of the organizations interested in community work has already been held and a committee appointed to present a plan for immediate action.

**Consolidation of Salem Relief and The Associated Charities**

During the year just past the movement to consolidate the Salem Relief and The Associated Charities was officially dismissed from further discussion at this time by both societies as the plan was deemed inexpedient for the present at least.

**Dental Clinic**

At the monthly Directors' meeting of November 10, 1922, a committee of two was appointed to study into the matter of a Dental Clinic. The committee was composed of Mrs. Alfred W. Putnam and Mr. Warren H. Butler. A preliminary survey of the subject was made by them and the point of view of the various agencies, state, municipal and private, interested in the work, was studied. Dr. McDermott of the Salem Board of Health was interviewed and it was learned that the matter was undoubtedly coming up before the City Council at a comparatively early date at the suggestion of Mayor Sullivan. (Mayor Sullivan has recently asked for an appropriation of $3,000 for the establishment of a dental clinic under the direction of the Board of Health.) We believe that both His Honor the Mayor and Dr. McDermott are interested in the plan and will do their utmost to carry the project to completion. The committee at the present time is proceeding to enlarge its membership to include other persons in the community actually interested in the matter of a Dental Clinic for Salem.

**State and National Conferences**

We were represented this year at the Massachusetts State Conference of Social Work at Greenfield by our Secretary, Miss Abbott, and one of our directors, Mrs. Putnam; also at the National Conference of Social Work at Washington, D. C., by our Secretary. These conferences are of real value, not only to those who represent us, but to the Society itself through the inspiration which is received by those who are fortunate enough to attend the meetings.

## American Association for Organizing Family Social Work

At one of our Directors' meetings, Mr. David H. Holbrook, Executive Director of the American Association for Organizing Family Social Work, explained in some detail the great value of our membership in the parent organization. It was brought out very clearly how dependent one society is on another, and on the kind of case work being done in other family social work societies. The American Association serves as a clearing house of information, and it hopes to play a large part in educational work on a National scale.

## Change of Name

It is becoming quite evident that a change in the name of this Society to one which more clearly describes its real work will become a recognized necessity. A report from the committee having this matter in charge will be listened to with interest at this meeting.

I have briefly touched in this report some of the more important matters that have been in our minds during the past year.

## Personnel

The real work of our Society, carried on so efficiently and patiently by our social workers, will be described in the report of our Secretary. The splendid work that they are doing, quietly and faithfully, day in and day out, makes the place of the Society in the community so important and the results of its efforts so far reaching that we cannot but feel that to them is due a very large measure of its success.

We have added to our office force this year Miss Alice R. Davenport who has shown herself to be of real value in the office work of the organization.

## Our Hope for the Future

In the minds of some of us there is a dream which we hope will materialize as the years go on. It is not a dream of Utopia, nor is it over fanciful, nor impossible of accomplishment.

It is a dream that would bring about, if it should come true, a greater co-operation between those agencies that are all striving for the same end, the betterment of the community we live in. The dream takes shape and assumes the form of a large committee or council, call it what you will. All the agencies of the city would be equally represented and it

would be within the jurisdiction of this council to meet at stated times in a genuine spirit of co-operation and helpfulness to discuss those problems affecting the life of the community, the welfare of its individuals and especially those who are unable to cope successfully with their own economic, domestic and moral problems.

If this could be brought about it would mean greater harmony, greater efficiency in the conduct of philanthropic work in the city and greater co-operation between the agencies. It seems as though the dream were worth considering, something worth striving for. Doubtless it would take a long time for such a dream to come true, if indeed it should materialize, but with such a plan of co-operation in force, the city would benefit, the public would feel its effect, and the individual whom we are trying to help (the most important consideration of all) would find his problems more intelligently and more constructively solved than by the present overlapping program.

### The Interpretation of Religion in the Terms of Service

One of the greatest needs today in this work is "the interpretation of religion in the terms of service." Our work requires greater wisdom as the years go on, more charity of judgment, more patience and above all a bigger and truer sympathy.

The tale of sorrow that comes to our ears must not find us indifferent, a picture of suffering must not meet our eyes and leave us unmoved. It must be the continuing high resolve of our organization to carry joy, kindness and sympathy into the homes of those about us who are oppressed by poverty and heavy burdens and to aid those who are embittered by failure and evil fortune.

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH B. HARRIS,

President.

November 2, 1923.

# Report of the General Secretary.

To the Members of The Associated Charities of Salem:

**What is Charity?**

President Coolidge welcomed Red Cross delegates to the recent National Convention at Washington in these words, "The American Red Cross is a modern application for an ancient principle. The idea of charity is very old. It is included in the teachings of the earliest philosophers. It is one of the fundamental doctrines of our Bible. It is the spiritual conception of human relationship. It is life in obedience to the things that are unseen."

With this interpretation of charity all is possible. Too often its meaning is obscured through general misuse of the word.

What is it that we, who call ourselves social workers, hope to accomplish with those who year after year seek our counsel? What do we offer them? How can we lift the burden which oppresses them?

We hope through sympathy and understanding to so administer our charity that each one who comes to us may be better able to cope for himself with the problems and perplexities which modern social conditions put upon us. To this end we give our service freely and gladly, but ever with the thought in mind that we must create, not destroy self-respect. Character is essential. Attitude of mind is important in human relationship. It is for us to stimulate a charitable and generous attitude and to lift the thoughts from sordid realities to nobler ideals.

More and more we come to realize the strong interplay of physical and mental forces. We are learning that the reason for poverty can often be traced to a mental conflict and that in such a case, to provide food or fuel without searching for the cause of the poverty, while it does relieve a material need, in no way prevents the same need from occurring again, nor does it prevent a further lowering of the family's

standards. A man's failure to make good may be due to ill health, shiftlessness or to a lack of moral responsibility. On the other hand it may be because of an uncongenial atmosphere in his home or in the shop. Having found the cause of his failure, what is the remedy? As Lowell says in his Bigelow papers:

> "The moral question's allus plain enough
> It's just the human nature side that's tough
> What's best to think mayn't puzzle me or you
> The pinch comes in deciding what to do."

**Analysis of Applications**

"What to do"; that is the question we have asked ourselves again and again while dealing with 310 families during the past year.

For 61 of these families we have been the mainstay, giving relief as needed to tide them over a period of readjustment, such as was necessary when a deserted mother, a moron, who had been doing general housework and boarding her nine year old boy in the country, lost her position and was unable for a time to earn enough to support herself and child. We spent many tedious hours with the mother at the Massachusetts General Hospital while we were trying to ascertain how much of her inability to make good was due to ill health and how much to shiftlessness.

54 families for whom we have given many hours of personal service have been receiving aid more or less regularly from the Board of Public Welfare (formerly the Overseers of the Poor), as shown in the case of this family, a man, wife, and eight delicate children, only two of whom are old enough to help their father feed and shelter this large family. Four years ago this man drank heavily, was at times delirious, with the inevitable result that he could not hold a job. About a year ago he got a good start and has been keeping pretty straight. As I said before, his children are not strong. One little boy at three years of age had not walked, talked, nor cried. Through our efforts at that time he was put under the care of a bone specialist. Today he is able to go to school and play with other boys. Last winter we noticed he was getting behind in his studies and appeared somewhat dull. Our volunteer visitor took him to a specialist in mental diseases, who at first thought him feeble-minded, but further tests proved that some of his apparent stupidity was due to defective hearing. An aurist was then consulted and these

two specialists had several conferences. In the meantime we explained this disability to his teacher and at the doctor's suggestion, our friendly visitor is to follow his progress in school this winter and help him with his studies if necessary. An older brother when five years old had his leg twisted near the ankle and had to have an operation. He then developed a nervous trouble. Through the Hospital we secured the services of a nerve specialist. Several of the children have had operations for hernia and ruptures, to say nothing of diseased tonsils and adenoids, pre-tubercular tendencies and children's diseases. Besides these eight children this young mother has lost three, who did not live to be of school age. We are glad that there is a society like ours to see that such children receive the best which our medical profession can offer and to help in building the character of these children who are the future citizens of America. In many families, as in this one, there is no money to cover two very necessary items in the family budget—health and recreation. Food, fuel, shelter and clothes must come first. The North Shore Babies' Hospital, the tuberculosis camp at the Willows, the Salem Fraternity and other organizations interested in the welfare of our community have all shared in giving this family the opportunity to become useful citizens.

In 9 instances other societies have asked us to give special service as did the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children last winter when at their request we gave a young mother groceries, coal, shoes, and rubbers pending their investigation of her divorce case.

There are always a large number of families who come to us, or who are referred to us, for whom we give a comparatively small amount of direct service. Last year this number was 144. Our service in such cases may be merely the giving of information or direction, often though, of more value to our client than we realize at the time, or perhaps we send them to some other agency who already knows them or who is better equipped than we are to meet their special needs. There is no end to this service as the following illustration shows. One day a well known Greek merchant came to our office with a young man, a stranger to him, who had come to Salem from Nashua to ask his fellow countryman to help him get back to his home in Greece. He was suffering from an incurable disease. This merchant told us the young man had proved to his satisfaction that they both came from

the same part of Greece, as they knew many people in common. He himself was willing to contribute towards the return passage. We consulted the Directory published by the American Association for Organizing Family Social Work and found that Portsmouth was the nearest "forwarding center" to Nashua. We phoned the Family Welfare Association of Portsmouth and obtained the name of a community worker in Nashua to whom we sent this man with a letter of introduction and a statement of what the Greek merchant in Salem was willing to do if his passage were secured to Greece.

5 transients came to our notice last year. One, a young girl of fifteen, might better be classed as a runaway. We put her on a train for home and arranged with the Associated Charities in that city to have a visitor meet her upon arrival.

We have had 37 out-of-town inquiries including 11 requests for summaries of our service to families registered with the Confidential Exchange in Boston, which came from the Reformatory for Women at Sherborn, the Psychopathic Hospital in Boston and other public and private agencies. It is interesting to note that among these inquiries was a request from a large manufacturing company in Worcester who sent us a letter they had received from a Turk in Peabody. This letter was written in such poor English the Company were in doubt as to just what the writer meant to convey, although it appeared that he had once been in their employ and that he believed there was pay still due him which he wanted sent to a certain address in Peabody. As they could not identify this man as one of their employees, they asked our help. The Public Health Nurse in Peabody called at the given address only to find that the man had moved—whereabouts unknown. Later, through one of the lodgers at this Turkish lodging house, she was able to locate him and get the necessary information to straighten out his account with this Company.

These 310 families represent 19 nationalities, 47 per cent being American. The next largest group is French Canadian, then Italian, and Polish.

**Probation**

We have had six probationers this year. Four cases have been filed. A young sixteen year old Polish girl failed to make good in the position found for her and was sent to finish her term of probation in the House of Good Shepherd. Letters received by her family show that she is happy. The

sixth probationer is Ethel, mentioned in my report last year, who was given a suspended sentence to the Reformatory for Women at Sherborn. Her conduct during the year of probation did not wholly satisfy us, but because we still had faith that she would make good under sympathetic guidance, we asked that her case be continued and not surrendered. The probation was continued a year and Ethel is now earning a good living as waitress in the cultured atmosphere of a girls' academy up among the hills of Massachusetts. She visits us every few months and writes often. This is a case that proves the true worth of our probation system.

**Relief**

We have spent but about $1900 this year for relief as compared with $2400 last year. $1219.57 of this amount was raised from relatives, churches, local funds and relief societies for special families which shows an increase of $370.54 over that raised in this way last year. But slightly over 10% of our families were given direct relief. These thirty-two families received very different aid. Coal and groceries were given in emergencies; milk was sent to several families; shoes, rubbers, and clothing were purchased where incomes were inadequate; glasses and teeth were ordered, and board was paid.

One night between five and six o'clock Officer Day phoned that there was a young woman in his office who had been turned out of the house with her little three year old boy and that she didn't know where to spend the night. Our talk with her revealed intricate domestic difficulties which had reached their climax in a dramatic scene at the home of her mother-in-law. Her husband's family belonged to St. James Parish. It was arranged that Miss Harding of the Catholic Charities Center should visit them in the morning. At her request, as the hour was late, we made arrangements for the night including meals at a restaurant and lodging at the Young Women's Association, where we afterwards learned Jackie behaved like a model child!

**Fresh Air Fund**

Much of the money spent on our families does not show on our books, as for instance the board for twelve boys for a week at the Salem Fraternity Camp at Rowley for which the Rotary Club so generously arranged. However, this was very much a part of our Fresh Air work this summer and enabled us to send twice as many boys to camp as last year. We sent twenty-one in all. Each boy was examined by either

the family physician or by one of the out-patient department staff at the Hospital before starting for camp in order to guard against the spreading of any disease such as diphtheria, mumps, or scarlet fever, and to eliminate those physically unfit for this out-of-door life.

To do good work one must be in good health. There is nothing like rest, pure food, and an abundance of fresh air to build up one's health. This fund enabled us to send an undernourished girl into the country for a month to gain strength to resume her work at the Mills where she had worked steadily and faithfully until one day she fainted on the job. After this vacation she went back to work with renewed interest and courage.

We arranged for free care at St. Luke's Convalescent Home in Roxbury for a tubercular patient, who had had an operation in the spring, and also for three weeks' convalescent care for a woman whose husband was able to pay the board.

The actual money spent from the Fresh Air Fund totaled $176.

## Employment

We have seen practically no distress this year because of unemployment. Industrial conditions in Salem have been on the whole good.

The Travelers' Aid Society of Boston sent a young Italian couple to us last spring who had just come to Salem from New York State. The young woman had sought their help in locating her husband whom she was to join here. Mr. Corrado had already obtained temporary work as a laborer while waiting for a chance to follow his own trade as chauffeur, and we almost immediately found work for his wife in a laundry.

We were also fortunate in getting back a job on a card cutting machine for a woman of forty-five who would undoubtedly be classed as a moron. Although Alice is a slow worker she can do good work in this particular line.

We have had comparatively few applications for day work as well as few calls for this service.

## The Handicapped

At the request of a special State Commission who were making a study of the physically handicapped for the purpose of submitting a report to the legislature, we compiled data which showed that of the fifteen persons we had known who

were handicapped through loss of limb, disease, or paralysis, four were either wholly or partially self-supporting, that relatives were supporting or assisting in the support of ten, and that relief, either private or public, was being given regularly or at intervals to eight.

The blind were not included in this study. In three of the families with whom we have been in touch this year, blindness is the chief reason for the hard problem the family has had to face. I recall so vividly the case of the ex-soldier who is putting up such a brave fight to conquer a feeling of utter hopelessness as his sight slips away. His failing eyesight is not due to his service in the Great War, so he can claim no compensation. We were asked by the Red Cross to visit the home and help this man and his wife readjust themselves to the new conditions. We found a most discouraged couple; she, a frail little woman under thirty living with her people, and he, a bright young chap a few years older living with his people in a neighboring city. Occasional visits were made back and forth. They were just drifting along, they knew not where. We communicated with the Commission for the Blind who sent their blind visitor, Mr. Walsh, to Salem and together we made plans for Mr. Hunter to spend a couple of weeks at the Rogers House, a club privately maintained by the Massachusetts Association for the Blind in Boston, where it was hoped through association with other blind people he might come to "find himself." This plan was not received very enthusiastically, but after some persuasion he yielded. As the club had but few boarders at this season of the year, Mr. Hunter was rather lonesome through the day until the boys began to gather after work, and he stayed only eight days. However eight days had left an imprint on his subconscious mind. I met him by chance shortly after his return home at the Exhibition for the Blind held in Ames Memorial Hall. He had told his wife he did not want to miss this exhibition, so, as tired as she was after a hard day's work (for in the meantime we had found steady work which she could do), she had followed his inclination and was doing all in her power to encourage this newly awakened interest. Although still in a somewhat skeptical mood and not fully appreciative of his week at the club, he began to let drop such remarks as "I never knew a blind person could earn such good money nor do so many things!" I introduced him that evening to several members of the Commission for the Blind who in turn presented him to the blind man giving an exhibition of basketry, to another demonstrating cabinet work and

so on. He was also shown games such as checkers and parchessi adapted for the blind, which he promised he would learn to play if I secured them from the Perkins Institution, and he was given an opportunity to chat with the blind pianist whom he had met at Rogers House. One could not but note the real comradeship between these two new friends. As Mr. Hunter used to make lasts in his younger days, the employment agent from the Commission hoped to find a job in a shoe factory removing lasts from shoes, but so far he has been unable to find such an opening. A home visitor is teaching him to cane-seat chairs and we have given him his first order. It so happens that he has not yet reached the lesson which will show him how to seat this particular chair, but we have left the chair at his home, which is now in Salem with his wife and her family, feeling that the incentive which this is giving him fully compensates for our loss of its use.

**Dental and Optical Service**

No report would be complete without mention of the generous response of our local dentists and occulists to our repeated calls for their free service. In my report last year I pointed out what seemed to me an urgent need for a dental clinic in Salem.

If children were taught how to care for their teeth we would not find a case like this. The dentist to whom we sent a little girl suffering with a bad toothache reported that he had had two teeth extracted and had promised to fill between fifteen and seventeen cavities! Last year we sent at least twenty-five children to a dentist, which as you see means many more than twenty-five teeth to be treated.

There is seldom a month when we do not need the services of a dentist and we do hesitate to call upon them so often when we realize how much time these fillings require. Now that experts are pointing out so many mental and physical defects due to diseased teeth as well as diseased tonsils and adenoids, we should be able to give all children the chance to have the necessary care and treatment.

To show how closely related are diseases of the teeth, throat, and eyes let me cite the case of a little French girl who came to us because of sore eyes. As she had already been to a certain local occulist, we took her back to the same one. He welcomed our visitor and said that *now* he saw some *hope*, as he knew *she* would see that his instructions were followed. The instructions were to have the teeth examined and tonsils and adenoids removed! Since this has been done

there has been a marked improvement in the eyes. This is only one of ten families for whom we have asked for free optical service.

### Christmas Clearing

As Mr. Harris has said, the establishment of the Christmas Clearing was a great step forward on the road to mutual understanding and helpfulness. We are greatly indebted to the Rotary Club who gave us the backing which was needed to crystallize this idea. Their plan to collect toys from the children of Salem to be distributed to their less fortunate playmates through the organized charities of our City was well conceived and nobly executed. As names of all recipients of gifts were registered with the Red Cross worker, who acted as Confidential Agent of this Christmas Clearing, these toys were divided among the greatest possible number of children. When a name came to the Agent's notice, either from a Rotarian or through a Santa Claus letter, our Confidential Exchange was consulted, and if the family were not known to another society, we were asked to visit the home. Nor was this the extent to which the Rotarians helped to create the spirit of Christmas. They were at once in sympathy with our plan to help families celebrate Christmas at home and have real family parties. They contributed and delivered thirty individual Christmas trees which gave no end of pleasure to both young and old who worked together to decorate them. We showed the mothers how to make crepe paper ornaments and gave them cranberries and popcorn to string. How much more this Christmas meant to these families who had had a share in making it! To our knowledge fifty-seven families known to us were remembered in one way or another last Christmas.

### Volunteers

Had it not been for our volunteers Christmas would have found us in breathless confusion! Day after day that last week before Christmas those faithful workers came to the office and carefully sorted and wrapped bundles and bundles of toys. Each child received a game, toy, and candy supplied by Parker Brothers, the Rotary Club, and others. We had sent letters to the parents asking them to call for these packages at certain hours on the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday before Christmas, urging them not to bring the children with them nor let them see the toys until Christmas morning. Many answered our letters; all came and very near

the hour mentioned. They showed much appreciation and a real desire to do their part in giving their children a right merry Christmas.

Last winter two of our volunteer visitors availed themselves of the opportunity to join a class in family case work given at the School of Social Work in Boston under the auspices of the Family Welfare Society. This course was given by the field worker from the American Association for Organizing Family Social Work. We hope to arrange for a similar course in Salem this year. Already we have had several applications.

Two new family visitors have been added to our volunteer staff both of whom are showing deep interest in their families. We regret very much the loss of Miss Etheridge, who for years has given one-half day a week in the office, but we wish her every success in the new work she has undertaken at the Institute. We are very fortunate in our volunteers. A dozen or fifteen are always on call and several of them are visiting families regularly.

What we do need, though, is motor service. We hope some day the motor corps which operated during the war will mobilize for peace.

**Spiritual Navigation**

To live for one's country is as noble as to die for one's country, and there are many obstacles in the way. If we are to help overcome these obstacles and conserve the young manhood and womanhood of our City, we must encourage not only work, play, and love, but also worship, for, to quote a lieutenant in our Naval Reserve, it is by spiritual navigation that "man conducts his soul through life's voyage and determines from time to time the progress made good. The church teaches spiritual navigation. It shows us how to pilot our way among the nooks and shoals that endanger life's voyage; to avoid or utilize the currents that may hinder or assist us; through Faith to steer by dead reckoning, though doubts befog or storms assail us; to take those celestial observations, make those contacts with divine law and purpose that keep us on our appointed course and bring us in time to that final anchorage toward which every human soul aspires."

Respectfully submitted,

LILIAN ABBOTT,

General Secretary.

# Report of the Treasurer

October 1, 1922—October 1, 1923

| RECEIPTS | |
|---|---|
| From beneficiaries in behalf of those aided | $1,219.57 |
| Subscriptions and donations | 5,240.42 |
| Interest, dividends and rentals | 1,544.06 |
| Miscellaneous | 21.64 |
| Borrowed from other sources | 1,500.00 |
| Cash on hand at beginning of year | 446.25 |
| Total | $9,971.94 |

| DISBURSEMENTS | |
|---|---|
| Salaries of workers | $4,189.92 |
| Printing, postage and office supplies | 582.59 |
| Telephone and telegraph | 165.11 |
| Rent | 565.50 |
| Heat, light and power | 8.34 |
| Furnishings and incidental repairs | 60.15 |
| Relief | 1,912.64 |
| Literature and dues | 129.70 |
| Loans repaid | 2,000.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 144.17 |
| Cash on hand at end of year | 213.82 |
| Total | $9,971.94 |

LELAND H. COLE,

Treasurer.

# SALEM COMMUNITY WELFARE DIRECTORY

| Organization | Address | President or Chairman | Executive |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alliance, The | First Congregational Society (Unitarian) | Miss Grace G. Dalton 82 Federal Street | ..... |
| Alliance, The | Second Church (Unitarian) | Mrs. John M. Raymond 8 Chestnut Street | ..... |
| American Legion | 329 Essex Street | Cornelius J. Kelleher, Com. | Mr. Frank A. Murphy, Adjt. |
| Relief Committee | ..... | Mr. Abraham Newmark 163 Essex Street | ..... |
| Associated Charities of Salem, The | 197a Washington Street | Mr. Ralph B. Harris | Miss Lilian Abbott, Gen. Sec. |
| Attendance Officer | ..... | See School Department | ..... |
| Baby Clinics | ..... | See Child Welfare Committee and Sick Baby Clinic | ..... |
| Bertram Home for Aged Men | 114 Derby Street | Mr. Walter H. Trumbull | Mrs. Mary E. Bassett, Matron |
| Board of Health | City Hall, 39 Washington Street | Dr. Wm. V. McDermott | Mr. John J. McGrath, Agent |
| Contagious Hospital | Salem Neck | ..... | Miss Theresa C. Feenan, R. N., Supt. |
| Contagious Nurse | City Hall | ..... | Miss Grace P. Wilson |
| Infant Welfare Nurse | City Hall | ..... | Miss Mary E. Gillis |
| Board of Public Welfare (formerly Overseers of the Poor) | City Hall, 39 Washington Street | Mr. William O. Safford | Miss Edith N. Stoddard, Clerk |
| City Home | Salem Neck | ..... | Mr. William T. Jeffrey, Supt. |
| City Physician | City Hall | ..... | Dr. Louis A. Kotarski |
| Bowditch School and Home Association | ..... | Mr. Thomas A. Henry 45 Broad Street | ..... |
| Broad Street Neighborhood Club | 5 Broad Street | Mrs. Alfred W. Putnam | Miss Martha E. Maccarty, Director |
| Bureau | ..... | See Women's Friend Society | ..... |
| Busy Bees | ..... | Miss Anna Fessenden 3 Hamilton Street | ..... |

## SALEM COMMUNITY WELFARE DIRECTORY—*Continued*

| Organization | Address | President or Chairman | Executive |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carpenter Street Home | ..... | See Salem Seaman's Orphan and Children's Friend Society | ..... |
| Catholic Charities Center | 176½ Essex St. | Mr. Martin J. Woods | Miss Marjorie T. Harding, Sec. |
| Cheerful Workers | ..... | Mrs. John Daland 22 Beckford Street | ..... |
| Child Welfare Committee | ..... | Miss Caroline O. Emmerton, 328 Essex Street | ..... |
| Well Baby Clinic | House of Seven Gables 54 Turner Street | ..... | Miss Mary Rooney, Nurse |
| Children's Home | ..... | See Salem Seaman's Orphan and Children's Friend Society | ..... |
| City Home | ..... | See Board of Public Welfare | ..... |
| City Physician | ..... | See Board of Public Welfare | ..... |
| District Nursing Committee | ..... | See Women's Friend Society | ..... |
| Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society | ..... | Mrs. Samuel Solomon 17 Roslyn Street | ..... |
| House of Seven Gables Settlement Association | 54 Turner Street | Mr. Rufus D. Adams | Miss Elizabeth H. Dunham, Head Worker |
| King's Daughters | Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church | Mrs. James L. Roope 49 Dearborn Street | ..... |
| Knights of Columbus | 94 Washington Sq., East | Mr. Peter Leonard, Grand Knight, 98 Tremont St. | ..... |
| Ladies' Aid Society | Lafayette Street Methodist Episcopal Church | Mrs. F. Maynard Joyce 2 Taft Road | ..... |
| Mack Industrial School, Esther C. | 17 Pickman Street | Miss Edith Rantoul | Mrs. Sarah J. Letsing, Supt. |

# SALEM COMMUNITY WELFARE DIRECTORY—*Continued*

| Organization | Address | President or Chairman | Executive |
|---|---|---|---|
| Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children North Shore District | 222 Cabot Street, Beverly | Dr. C. Boardman Burnham | Mr. Charles Clark, District Agent |
| Salem Branch | 197a Washington Street Office Hours, Thurs. 12-1 | Mr. George M. Bemis 3 Willow Avenue | Mrs. Clara E. Gillis, Asst. Dist. Agt. |
| Military Aid | ..... | See Soldiers' and Sailors' Aid | ..... |
| Ministers' Conference | ..... | Rev. Alfred Manchester 15 Forrester Street | ..... |
| Mission | First Congregational Society | Mrs. Foster Rogers 13 Chestnut Street | ..... |
| | ..... | Mrs. Richard H. Wiswall, 12 Orne Sq. | ..... |
| Mission | ..... | See Women's Friend Society | ..... |
| North Shore Babies' Hospital | Foot of Dearborn Street | Mrs. Charles F. Ropes (Acting President) | Miss Dorothy H. Smith, Supt. |
| Old Ladies' Home | 180 Derby Street | Mr. Arthur H. Phippen | Miss Agnes B. Small, Matron |
| Overseers of the Poor | ..... | See Board of Public Welfare | ..... |
| Pickering Neighborhood Association (not active) | ..... | Mr. Charles D. Tutty 23 Woodside Street | ..... |
| Plummer Farm School of Reform for Boys | Winter Island | Mr. John B. Tivnan 361 Lafayette Street | Mr. Frank U. Wetmore, Supt.<br>Mrs. Frank U. Wetmore, Matron |
| Police Department | Police Station 25 Central Street | ..... | Mr. D. J. Phalen, City Marshal |
| Probation Officer | First District Court 31 Central Street | ..... | Mr. William H. Hart |
| Probation Officers | Superior Court 34 Federal Street | ..... | Mr. Charles A. Salisbury<br>Miss Ellen de Salles Barrett |

## SALEM COMMUNITY WELFARE DIRECTORY—*Continued*

| Organization | Address | President or Chairman | Executive |
|---|---|---|---|
| Red Cross | | | |
| Essex County Chapter of American Red Cross | 70 Washington Street | Mr. Charles D. Porter<br>Haverhill, Mass. | ..... |
| Salem Branch | 70 Washington Street | Mrs. Charles F. Ropes<br>Foot of Dearborn Street | ..... |
| St. Mary's Guild | Church of the Immaculate Conception | Miss Lucy G. Driscoll<br>2 Hazel Street | ..... |
| St. Vincent de Paul | Immaculate Conception Parish | Mr. Michael D. O'Malley<br>47 Washington Square | ..... |
| St. Vincent de Paul | St. James' Parish | Mr. John J. Tierney<br>35 Albion Street | ..... |
| St. Vincent de Paul | St. Joseph's Parish | Mr. Arthur Guilmet<br>180 Oakland Street<br>Peabody | ..... |
| Salem Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis | 2 St. Peter Street | Mr. Josiah H. Gifford | Miss Edith J. Barker,<br>Instructive Nurse |
| Salem Female Charitable Society | ..... | Mrs. John Robinson<br>18 Summer Street | ..... |
| Salem Fraternity | 11 Central Street | Dr. DeWitt S. Clark | Mr. Herbert C. Farwell, Supt. |
| Salem Hospital | 65 Highland Avenue | Mr. Matthew Robson | Mr. Wilbur B. Bigelow, Supt. |
| Salem Relief Committee | 264 Derby Street | Rev. Alfred Manchester | Mrs. Abbie P. Sinclair, Agent |
| Salem Seaman's Orphan and Children's Friend Society | 7 Carpenter Street | Mrs. Arthur W. West | Miss Julia E. Pratt, Matron |
| Salem Young Women's Association | 18 Brown Street | Mrs. Lawrence W. Edwards | Mrs. Katherine C. Dorrance, Gen. Sec. |
| Saltonstall Association | ..... | Mr. Frank E. Smart<br>2½ Holly Street | ..... |
| Salvation Army | 41 Lafayette Street | ..... | William J. Killoch, Capt. |
| Samaritan Society of Salem | ..... | Mrs. Robert E. Hill<br>35 Dearborn Street | ..... |

# SALEM COMMUNITY WELFARE DIRECTORY—*Continued*

| Organization | Address | President or Chairman | Executive |
|---|---|---|---|
| School Department | School Administration Building, 1 Broad St. | ..... | ..... |
| Attendance Officer | 1 Broad Street | ..... | Mr. Thomas C. Brown |
| School Nurse | 1 Broad Street | ..... | Miss Agnes E. Callahan |
| School Physician | 1 Broad Street | ..... | Dr. George E. Tucker |
| Seamen's Widow and Orphan Association of Salem | ..... | Mrs. Henry R. Johnson 274 Lafayette Street | ..... |
| Sick Baby Clinic | Lydia Pinkham Memorial 264 Derby Street | Mrs. William H. Gove | Miss Alice H. Little, R. N. |
| Society for the Higher Education of Women | ..... | Mrs. Ralph C. Browne 123 Federal Street | ..... |
| Soldiers' and Sailors' Aid | City Hall, Room 3 39 Washington Street | ..... | Mr. Charles H. McGee, Clerk |
| Thread and Needle Club | ..... | Mrs. Albert Goodhue 47 Warren Street | ..... |
| Trust Fund Commissioners, Board of | 264 Derby Street | His Honor the Mayor | Miss Anna G. Kinsella, Investigator |
| Tuberculosis Association | ..... | See Salem Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis | ..... |
| Woman's Association of the Tabernacle Church | ..... | Mrs. Harry P. Gifford 16 Winter Street | ..... |
| Women's Friend Society | 12 Hawthorne Boulevard | Mrs. Wm. A. Merrill | Mrs. Bertha A. Brooks, Supt. |
| District Nursing Committee | ..... | Mrs. John Robinson 18 Summer Street | Miss Josephine L. Byrne, R. N. |
| Mission | ..... | Mrs. John Robinson | ..... |
| Woman's Society | First Baptist Church | Mrs. Clyde I. Oliver 197 North Street | ..... |
| Young Men's Christian Association of Salem | 288 Essex Street | Mr. Matthew Robson | Mr. Christian Lantz, Gen. Sec. |
| Young Women's Association | ..... | See Salem Young Women's Association | ..... |

Revised June 1924

# The Associated Charities of Salem

Incorporated July 5, 1901

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## FORM OF BEQUEST

I devise and bequeath to The Associated Charities of Salem, Massachusetts, to be applied to the benevolent uses and purposes of said Society and under its direction.

(Insert description of the money or property given.)

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Money may be sent to Leland H. Cole, Treasurer, Naumkeag Trust Company, and checks made payable to him.

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**THE SOCIETY IS SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**